

Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation

U.S. Support for NPT Article IV

UNITED STATES & SAUDI ARABIA

Through the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the United States contributes to the work of many countries using nuclear materials and technology for peaceful purposes. In recent years, U.S. support has focused on achieving tangible and lasting benefits in fields that are vital to human development, including agriculture, human health, water resource management, and human resource development. Since 2000, the IAEA has approved and funded \$1,689,178 under its Technical Cooperation (TC) program for projects in Saudi Arabia.

In addition to the U.S.' longstanding support for the IAEA's activities to promote peaceful nuclear applications, at the 2010 NPT Review Conference, the U.S. announced a \$100 million USD effort to expand this support over the next five years. The United States has pledged \$50 million towards the IAEA's Peaceful Uses Initiative (PUI), focusing on human health, food security, water resource management, and nuclear power infrastructure development.



Power plant under construction. Credit: Kansai Electric Power Co.

The U.S. views its support for peaceful uses of nuclear energy, to which all NPT Parties are entitled, as a critical part of its broader effort to strengthen the IAEA and the global nuclear nonproliferation regime. The U.S. has already designated over \$22 million for IAEA projects benefitting over 120 countries, including Saudi Arabia, for which funding was previously unavailable. The United States is working with partners to reach the \$100 million goal, and welcomes commitments of over \$12 million from Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Sweden, Australia, France, Indonesia, Brazil, Italy, the UK and Kazakhstan.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

An increasing number of Member States are considering nuclear power as part of their electricity generation options, and those Member States need comprehensive and credible information on nuclear power issues such as cost and benefit, energy security and environmental impact to support their decision making. Saudi Arabia recently participated in a regional TC project supported by the U.S. that provided comprehensive information to Member States to support their decision making regarding nuclear power planning and development.

NUCLEAR SAFETY

Saudi Arabia recently participated in a regional TC project supported by the U.S. to strengthen the remaining elements of its national regulatory framework for radiation safety to meet international safety standards as well as to establish a regional network of

regulatory authorities to exchange information and share experiences.

HUMAN RESOURCES

To contribute to Member States' manpower development, the IAEA awards individual fellowships and organizes group training courses. Since 2000, two Saudis have trained in the U.S. through the IAEA Fellowship Program in the field of radiation processing facilities and applications. Additionally, since 2000, 12 U.S. experts have traveled to Saudi Arabia to collaborate through various IAEA TC projects. Examples of some topics include marine pollution, isotopes, radiation treatments, wastewater, and techno-economic feasibility.

Through bilateral efforts, the U.S. has provided support to Saudi Arabia. Since 2000, the U.S. has sent several expert missions to Saudi Arabia to assist with work in general atomic energy development, radiation processing, marine environment and coastal zone management, and radioisotope and radiation treatment.

The International Nuclear Safeguards Engagement Program (INSEP) will continue to pursue a partnership in 2013. Funding by the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA) for Saudi Arabia in 2012 equaled \$18,000.

Also, since 2000, one Saudi Arabian physician has been certified through the American Board of Nuclear Medicine.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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